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Information on Provisions Shipments Along the
North China Coast Requested by CSS

From mid-June to mid-August large movements of provisions have been

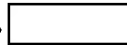
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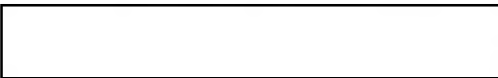
moving by sea from Shanghai northward to Dairen, Tientsin, and

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Chinhuangtao. A few shipments seem to have originated at Lienyunkang.



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wheat, wheat flour, rice, salted fish,

broad beans, dried sweet potatoes, and sweet potato flour. Wheat and wheat

flour account for the major part of the shipments and were sent

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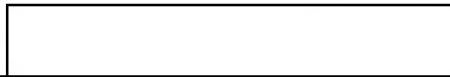
principally to Dairen. The rice seems to have gone primarily to Tientsin

and Chinhuangtao. No clear pattern is discernible as yet for the other

commodities.

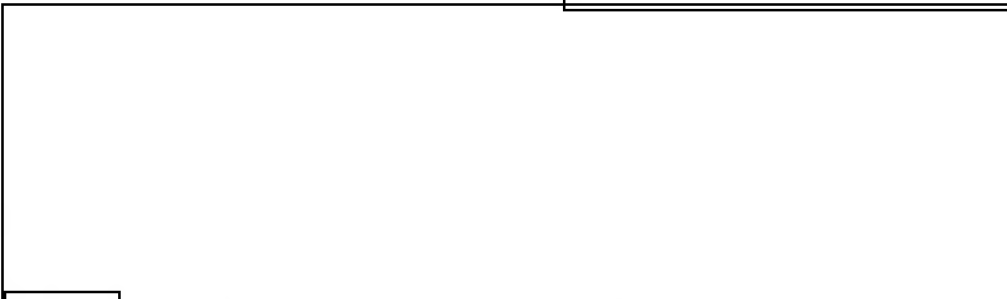
Indirect evidence seems to indicate that the movement is probably

larger in 1957 than in the previous year.



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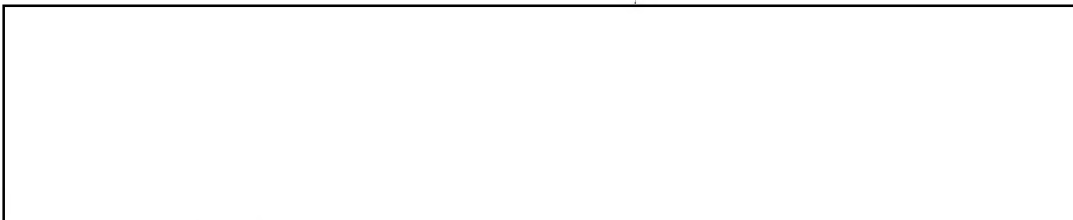
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The existence of provisions shipments in 1954 and 1955 is also unknown.

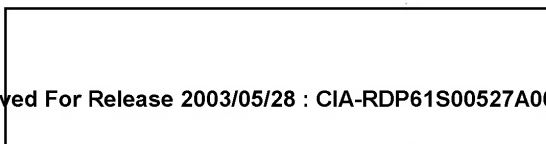
Though it is known that such shipments took place in the period 1951-53, the quantity is unknown.

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NSA review completed

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The Chinese coastal fleet was augmented in July by 11 Russian-flag vessels and one British vessel. Six of the Russian vessels were operating in the China coastal trade in June and 8 were operating in May but seen not to have been engaged in transporting provisions. The Russian vessels have resumed their trade either in the Soviet Far East or in the China coastal trade, but not carrying provisions, since July. The British vessel has resumed its normal voyages in the coastal trade south of Shanghai.

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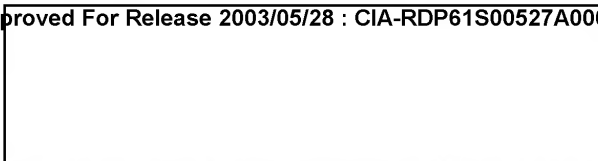
The vessels observed during the period of study are primarily those large vessels (over 1,000 GRT) of the Chinese fleet operating on the North Coast.

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Thus it would seem that the coverage of the vessels engaged in the provisions movement is incomplete. The size of the fleet of small vessels operating

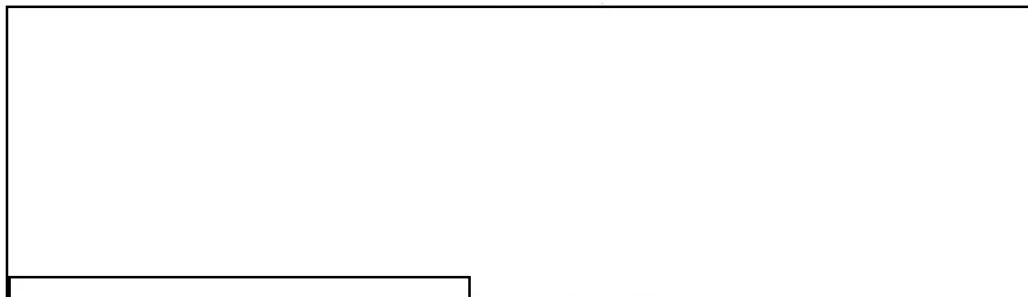
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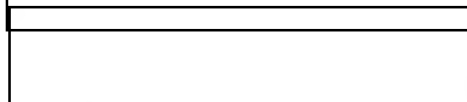


along the north coast and that might be engaged in the movement is unknown.

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The total provisions movement may be

in excess of the figures shown above, although the shipments noted probably account for the major part of the total movement.

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